

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

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- 1 1. A method implemented by a digital processing system for processing media data, said method comprising:
  - 3 creating on a first digital processing system a set of data to indicate how to
  - 4 transmit a time related sequence of media data according to a
  - 5 transmission protocol; and
  - 6 storing said set of data on a storage device coupled to the first digital
  - 7 processing system, wherein said set of data is a time related sequence
  - 8 of data associated with and separate from said time related sequence of
  - 9 media data.
- 1 2. A method as in claim 1 wherein said set of data is stored as a track of
- 2 indicating data, and wherein said transmission protocol comprises a packet data
- 3 protocol.
- 1 3. A method as in claim 1 further comprising:
  - 2 determining a format of said time related sequence of media data before
  - 3 creating said set of data;
  - 4 determining said transmission protocol before creating said set of data,
  - 5 wherein said transmission protocol is used to transmit said time related
  - 6 sequence of media data which has said format.

1    4.    A method as in claim 1 further comprising:  
2               transmitting packets of data representing said time related sequence of media  
3               data according to said transmission protocol.

1    5.    A method as in claim 4 further comprising:  
2               transmitting said set of data to a second digital processing system, which  
3               second digital processing system, in response to receiving said set of  
4               data, generates said packets of data.

1    6.    A method as in claim 4 wherein for each of said packets, said set of data refers  
2       to data in at least one of a sequence of image data or a sequence of audio data  
3       associated with said time related sequence of media data.

1    7.    A method as in claim 5 wherein said first digital processing system provides  
2       said set of data to a server digital processing system which stores said set of data and  
3       transmits said packets of data to a receiving digital processing system.

1    8.    A machine readable medium containing executable program instructions,  
2       which when executed on a digital processing system cause the digital processing  
3       system to perform a method comprising:  
4               retrieving a set of data which indicates how to transmit a time related sequence  
5               of media data according to a transmission protocol;

6           transmitting data representative of said time related sequence of media data  
7           according to said set of data, wherein said set of data is a time related  
8           sequence of data associated with and separate from said time related  
9           sequence of media data.

1     9.       The machine readable medium of claim 8, wherein said set of data is stored as  
2       a track of indicating data, and wherein said transmission protocol comprises a packet  
3       data protocol.

*(A)*

1     10.      The machine readable medium of claim 8, wherein execution of said  
2       executable program instructions further cause said digital processing system to  
3       perform the method comprising:  
4               determining a format of said time related sequence of media data;  
5               determining said transmission protocol, wherein said transmission protocol is  
6               used to transmit said time related sequence of media data which has  
7               said format.

1     11.      The machine readable medium of claim 10, wherein execution of said  
2       executable program instructions further cause said digital processing system to  
3       perform the method comprising:  
4               transmitting packets of data representing said time related sequence of media  
5               data according to said transmission protocol.

1    12.   The machine readable medium of claim 11, wherein for each of said packets,  
2    said set of data refers to data in at least one of a sequence of image data or a sequence  
3    of audio data associated with said time related sequence of media data.

1    13.   The machine readable medium of claim 8, comprising a magnetic storage area,  
2    wherein at least one of said executable program instructions and said time related  
3    sequence of media data is stored in said magnetic storage area.

1    14.   The machine readable medium of claim 8, comprising an optical storage area,  
2    wherein at least one of said executable program instructions and said time related  
3    sequence of media data is stored in said optical storage area.

1    15.   The machine readable medium of claim 8, comprising an electronic storage  
2    area, wherein at least one of said executable program instructions and said time related  
3    sequence of media data is stored in said electronic storage area.

1    16.   An apparatus comprising:  
2         a first digital processing system comprising a first processor to generate a set  
3                 of data associated with transmission of a time related sequence of  
4                 media data according to a transmission protocol, wherein said set of  
5                 data is a time related sequence of data associated with and separate  
6                 from said time related sequence of media data.

1    17. The apparatus of claim 16, further comprising:  
2    a second digital processing system, coupled to said first digital processing system, to  
3    receive said set of data from said first digital processing system, said second  
4    processor comprising:  
5         a second processor;  
6         a first storage area to store said media data; and  
7         a second storage area to store said set of data.

1    18. The apparatus of claim 17, wherein said second digital processing system is  
2    coupled to a data communication link to provide packets of data representing said time  
3    related sequence of media data according to said transmission protocol.

1    19. The apparatus of claim 18, wherein for each of said packets, said set of data  
2    refers to data in at least one of a sequence of image data or a sequence of audio data  
3    associated with said time related sequence of media data.

1    20. A computer readable medium comprising:  
2         a time related sequence of media data;  
3         a set of data which, when processed by a digital processing system, indicates  
4                 to said digital processing system how to transmit said time related  
5                 sequence of media data according to a transmission protocol, wherein  
6                 said set of data is a time related sequence of data associated with and  
7                 separate from said time related sequence of media data.

1    21.    The computer readable medium of claim 20, wherein said set of data is stored  
2    as a track of indicating data, and wherein said transmission protocol comprises a  
3    packet data protocol.

1    22.    The computer readable medium of claim 20, further comprising:  
2         a first set of instructions to cause a digital processing system to determine a  
3                 format of said time related sequence of media data;  
4         a second set of instructions to cause said digital processing system to  
5                 determine said transmission protocol, wherein said transmission  
6                 protocol is used to transmit said time related sequence of media data  
7                 which has said format.      A

1    23.    The computer readable medium of claim 22, wherein said set of data is stored  
2    as a track of indicating data, and wherein said transmission protocol comprises a  
3    packet data protocol.

1    24.    The computer readable medium of claim 21, further comprising a set of  
2    instructions to cause a digital processing system to generate packets representing said  
3    time related sequence of media data, wherein for each of said packets, said set of data  
4    refers to data in at least one of a sequence of image data and a sequence of audio data  
5    associated with said time related sequence of media data.

1    25.    The computer readable medium of claim 20, comprising a magnetic storage  
2    area, wherein at least one of said time related sequence of media data and said set of  
3    data is stored in said magnetic storage area.

1    26.    The computer readable medium of claim 20, comprising an optical storage  
2    area, wherein at least one of said time related sequence of media data and set of  
3    instructions is stored in said optical storage area.

1    27.    The computer readable medium of claim 20, comprising an electronic storage  
2    area, wherein at least one of said time related sequence of media data and said set of  
3    data is stored in said electronic storage area.

1    28.    A computer readable medium containing executable computer program  
2    instructions, which when executed on a first digital processing system cause the first  
3    digital processing system to perform a method comprising:  
4           generating a set of data to indicate a method to transmit a time related sequence  
5           of media data according to a transmission protocol, wherein said set of  
6           data is a time related sequence of data associated with and separate  
7           from said time related sequence of media data; and  
8           storing said set of data.

1    29. The computer readable medium of claim 28, wherein said set of data is stored  
2    as a track of indicating data, and wherein said transmission protocol comprises a  
3    packet data protocol.

1    30. The machine readable medium of claim 28, wherein said executable program  
2    instructions further cause the first digital processing system to perform the method  
3    comprising:

4                determining a format of said time related sequence of media data;  
5                determining said transmission protocol, wherein said transmission protocol is  
6                used to transmit said time related sequence of media data which has  
7                said format.

1    31. The machine readable medium of claim 28, wherein said executable program  
2    instructions further cause the first digital processing system to perform the method  
3    comprising:

4                generating packets of data representing said time related sequence of media  
5                data according to said transmission protocol; and  
6                transmitting said packets to a second digital processing system.

1    32. The machine readable medium of claim 28, wherein said executable program  
2    instructions further cause the digital processing system to perform the method  
3    comprising:

4 transmitting said set of data to a second digital processing system, wherein  
5 said second digital processing system utilizes said set of data to  
6 generate packets of data representing said time related sequence of  
7 media data according to said transmission protocol.

1 33. The machine readable medium of claim 31, wherein for each of said packets,  
2 said set of data refers to data in at least one of a sequence of image data and a sequence  
3 of audio data associated with said time related sequence of media data.

1 34. The machine readable medium of claim 22, wherein for each of said packets,  
2 said set of data refers to data in at least one of said sequence of image data and said  
3 sequence of audio data.

1 35. The machine readable medium of claim 32, wherein said second digital  
2 processing system, in response to said set of data, transmits said packets of data to  
3 another digital processing system.

1 36. An apparatus for processing media data, said apparatus comprising:  
2 a first means for generating a set of data associated with transmission of a time  
3 related sequence of media data according to a transmission protocol,  
4 wherein said set of data is a time related sequence of data associated  
5 with and separate from said time related sequence of media data; and  
6 a second means for storing said first set of data.

- 1    37. The apparatus of claim 36, further comprising:  
2        a third means for transmitting packets of data representing said time related  
3              sequence of media data.
- 1    38. The apparatus of claim 37, wherein said set of data identifies at least a portion  
2        of said packets of data.
- 1    39. The apparatus of claim 37, wherein said set of data provides at least a portion  
2        of the information included in said packets of data.
- 1    40. The apparatus of claim 37, further comprising:  
2        a third means for transmitting said set of data to a server means, said server  
3              means having means for generating packets of data representing said  
4              time related sequence of media data for transmission to a receiver  
5              means.
- 1    41. A method of processing media data, said method comprising:  
2        storing a time related sequence of media data;  
3        storing a set of data to enable a first digital processing system to generate,  
4              according to a transmission protocol, data packets representing said  
5              time related sequence of media data, wherein said set of data is a time

6 related sequence of data associated with said time related sequence of  
7 media data.

1 42. The method of claim 41, wherein said set of data provides at least a portion of  
2 the information included in said data packets.

1 43. The method of claim 41, wherein said set of data identifies at least a portion of  
2 the information included in said data packets.

1 44. The method of claim 41, further comprising:  
2 generating said set of data at a second digital processing system;  
3 said second digital processing system transmitting said set of data to said first  
4 digital processing system; and  
5 said first digital processing system generating said data packets in response to  
6 receiving said set of data.

1 45. The method of claim 44, further comprising:  
2 said first digital processing system transmitting said data packets to another  
3 digital processing system for presentation as a media object.

1 46. A method implemented by a digital processing system for processing media  
2 data, said method comprising:

3 generating on a first digital processing system a first time related sequence of  
4 data to indicate how to transmit a second time related sequence of data  
5 according to a transmission protocol, wherein said second time related  
6 sequence of data is associated with time-based media, and wherein said  
7 first time related sequence of data is associated with said second time  
8 related sequence of data; and  
9 storing said first time related sequence of data.

1 47. A method as in claim 46, wherein said first time related sequence of data is  
2 stored as a track of indicating data, and wherein said transmission protocol comprises  
3 a packet data protocol.

1 48. A method as in claim 46, further comprising:  
2 determining a format of said second time related sequence of data prior to  
3 generating said first time related sequence of data; and  
4 determining said transmission protocol prior to generating said first time  
5 related sequence of data, wherein said transmission protocol is used to  
6 transmit said second time related sequence of data which has said  
7 format.

1 49. A method as in claim 46, further comprising:  
2 transmitting packets of data representing said second time related sequence of  
3 data according to said transmission protocol.

- 1    50. A method as in claim 49, further comprising:  
2               transmitting said first time related sequence of data to a second digital  
3               processing system, which second digital processing system, in  
4               response to receiving said first time related sequence of data, generates  
5               said packets of data.
- 1    51. A method as in claim 49, wherein for each of said packets, said first time  
2               related sequence of data refers to at least one of a sequence of image data or a  
3               sequence of audio data associated with said second time related sequence of data.
- 1    52. A method as in claim 50, wherein said first digital processing system provides  
2               said first time related sequence of data to a server digital processing system which  
3               stores said first time related sequence of data and transmits said packets of data to a  
4               receiving digital processing system.
- 1    53. A method as in claim 50, further comprising presenting said time related  
2               sequence of media data on at least one of said first digital processing system and said  
3               second digital processing system.
- 1    54. A method as in claim 46, wherein said second time related sequence of data is  
2               stored on a read-only memory (ROM).

1    55. A method as in claim 54, wherein said read-only memory (ROM) comprises a  
2    optical storage medium.

1    56. A method as in claim 54, wherein said second time related sequence of data is  
2    packetized according to said first time related sequence of data without performing at  
3    least one of a storing and a formatting operation on said second time related sequence  
4    of data.